

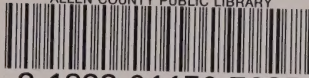
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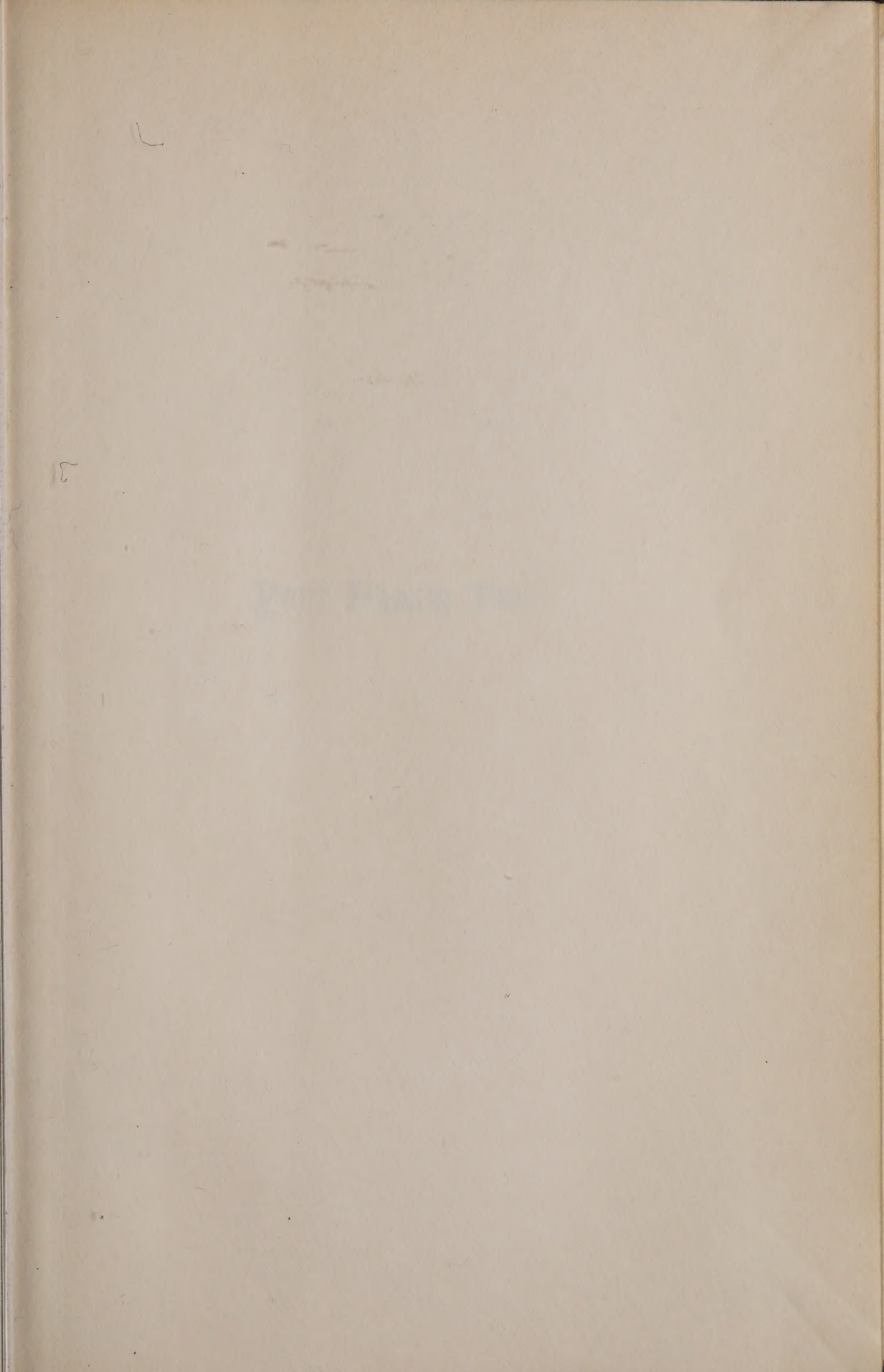
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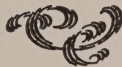
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Your
Family Tree

A Hobby Handbook

BY

GARLAND EVANS HOPKINS, F. I. A. G.



THE DIETZ PRESS, INC., RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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Acknowledgments

In preparing this little book I have been greatly aided by the suggestions and corrections made by Major George W. Weber, Professor Charles A. Owen and Margaret Lail Hopkins. To these I acknowledge my indebtedness for their willing and helpful interest.

GARLAND EVANS HOPKINS.

McLean, Virginia

May 1, 1949.

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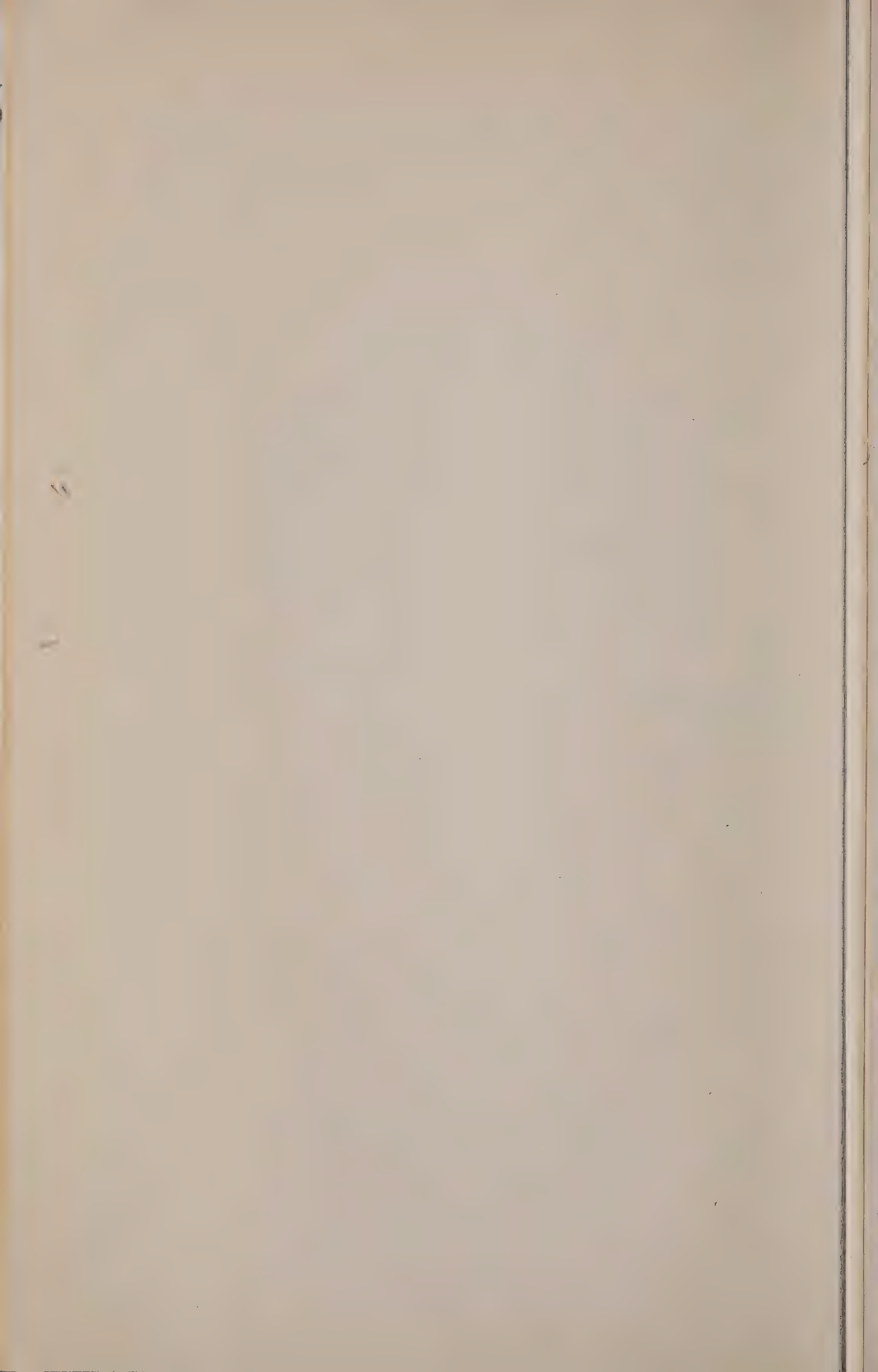


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Your Family Tree

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I

Genealogy as a Hobby

Are you interested in finding a hobby that will be recreational, educational, engaging—and inexpensive? I have it for you, the only hobby I know that can be all these and at the same time offer you a chance to make a valuable contribution to your family and, perhaps, to your community. It is also a hobby in which you may be assured your children and grandchildren will become vitally interested. Who is not interested in knowing about himself?

Genealogy as a hobby offers many attractions which other hobbies can not possibly possess. I am a stamp collector and I enjoy collecting as a hobby, but when I finish a section in my album, even though my stamp club friends may exclaim over it, I find my interest waning. The same thing applies to most other collection hobbies. When I die my stamp collection will soon disappear. It will be sold or given away, but histories I have gotten together will be carefully preserved and treasured. They will become a part of my family's heritage; and not for my immediate family only, but for thousands of others who

have sprung from the same roots. If I have done them well, they will become welcome additions to the State Archives Department or to the historical collections of the Library of Congress. They are a creative contribution that may materially affect the personalities of a good many people. I have seen individuals who were "born on the wrong side of the tracks" get an entirely new slant on life simply by discovering that they had a worthy ancestry. And that is a guarantee which the hobby can offer anyone. Search long enough and hard enough and he will unearth men and women of prominence in his line.

Have you ever thought of the large number of forbears you have? The average American family has at least one or two lines which trace back to colonial days—eight or more generations right here in America. Almost every family has a background on one side or the other of at least four American generations. Suppose your mother's people have been Americans for four generations and your father's for seven. That would give you seventy-two American forebears in direct lines. Can you name ten of them? If your family has been here ten generations—and many have—you have seven hundred and twelve direct American ancestors. They are the people who have handed down to you your heritage, your physical being, your mental qualities, and your traditions. What kind of people were they? For what traits were they noted? What were their strong points? What were their weaknesses? Whether you adhere to one side or the other of the "Heredity or Environment, which is the stronger?" argument, these are the people who have, in a large measure,

made you what you are. Genealogy, then, is a hobby in which you discover not only your ancestors but yourself.

As a recreational hobby it has no peer. Through it you may escape the dullness and boredom of many an evening. It is essentially a "home hobby" and in itself has value. Its required properties are not great in number, making it much more popular with wives than many other hobbies. Too few husbands and wives pursue a hobby in which they are mutually interested, but here is one in which both can join, vying perhaps for new "finds", new discoveries in their respective lines, while building a common heritage for their children. In recent years my wife and I have built our vacations largely around our interests in our own lines. What fun we have had meeting new kinfolk and visiting old family seats! I recall especially that long pull up a narrow mountain road to visit "Uncle Pole's" (Polycarp, to you) old place in the Black Mountains. There was not much to be proud of so far as the house was concerned, but there we discovered two books published in the eighteenth century in another language and brought over to this country along with many more, Uncle Pole said, by his great grandfather, one of our forebears, who was an outstanding leader. That discovery threw an interesting new light on an otherwise dimly known ancestor.

In our treks we have come across strange people in strange places. Some have been nationally known figures and others share-croppers—all stemming from our family trees. They have been as interested to meet us as we have been to meet them. And from these experiences have come new friendships and

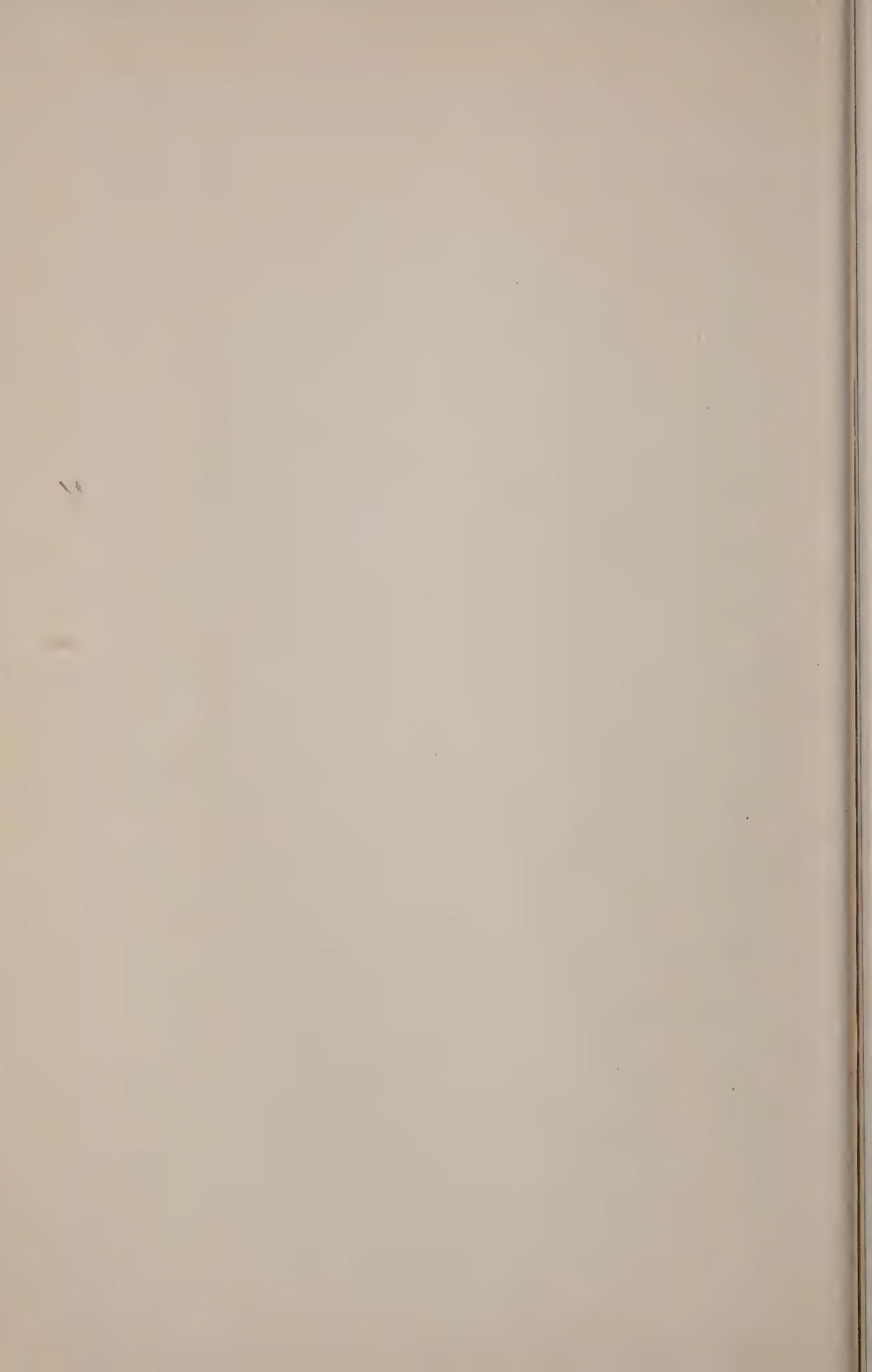
invaluable aid in completing our quests. Perhaps I should not use the word "completing", for one rarely completes a genealogy. Every time you run across a new forbear, limitless opportunities are opened up for researching new ancestors and collateral kin. This is a hobby that lives. Musty courthouses? Yes, but also vacation trips and snapshots and strange stories and new friends, new "cousins".

Genealogy as a hobby is another way to continue your education. You will not be satisfied to have only a list of names and dates. How did people live then? How were their houses furnished? What kind of clothes did they wear? They lived at Middle Plantation or in Massachusetts Bay; in New Amsterdam or Santa Fe—what sort of life did they live? Then you will run across European lines. In Europe genealogical research has flourished much longer than here and there are many source books of European ancestry. Here, again, new and fascinating fields are opened up. I found an ancestor who had participated in the Crusades; as a result I began reading about the Crusades, forgot the ancestor and developed an abiding interest in the history and significance of those Holy Wars. You are not a thorough convert to the study of genealogy until you find yourself desiring to know more than names and dates.

I have suggested that this is an engaging hobby. The further you go, the further still you want to go; that is, if you have the adventurous spirit of a genealogist. If you are looking for something to brag about, forget genealogy as a hobby and hire a professional. He can usually dish up some fine names and handsome portraits. Whether or not they are yours, you will never know, but you can boast to

your heart's content. However, if you like adventure and can take what you find and enjoy it, you will appreciate this hobby. One of my forebears got thrown out by his heels when, as High Sheriff and after two warnings, he opened up a court session in a highly inebriated fashion. Then there was the time I found positive proof that we were kin to a family of the same name in our community who had not done very well for themselves. My mother expressed her disapproval and suggested that some things were better left out of a family tree than put there. In genealogy, however, you don't decide the facts; you simply find them and interpret them. And you never give out of facts waiting to be unearthed, lines to be traced down. It is a lifetime hobby!

Best of all, it is inexpensive, perhaps the most inexpensive of the major hobbies. Your materials are pencil and paper, borrowed library books, courthouse records, and, if you are a serious hobbyist, a membership in the Institute of American Genealogy at ten dollars a year. Correspondence, copies of records, and vacation trips do cost money, but the amount is negligible compared with the cost of other hobbies, and with the interest you get on your investment. And, if you wish, and as I have proven, it will pay for itself. Try mimeographing what you have found out about a ten-generation family and watch your cousins gobble it up in sufficient numbers and at a price sufficient to fully repay the cash outlay you made. What about your time? No, they won't pay you for that and it would be cheating if they did. You will already have been repaid for that many times over in strange adventures and interesting evenings.



II

How to Begin

MATERIALS NEEDED—I am assuming that you have decided to make genealogy your hobby. Naturally, your first question is, how do I begin? The answer to your question at this point is much easier than some you will ask later. Simply get yourself a good notebook and a pen or pencil. I suggest that an 8½ x 11 notebook is preferable, either with rings or of the binder variety. Later you will need several binder notebooks, but I suspect your first had better be one with rings. They are easier to handle in making notes, while binders are more valuable in preserving them. Personally, I like a notebook with a zipper fastener and pockets inside both covers. They are more expensive, however, and not at all necessary. As a matter of fact, I began making my notes in a five-cent, blue-back notebook and you can do the same thing, but I strongly advise you not to do so. My greatest difficulties have resulted from misplacing those small books. In one case, I lost one of them with information I was able to duplicate only by a long and expensive trip.

I also like a small carrying case in which to keep

the notebook and such other materials and references as I may need from time to time.

A good magnifying glass will prove helpful in reading old records, and a ruler is of great help in keeping on the right line if the record is written in small letters, as it often is.

BEGIN WITH WHAT YOU KNOW—Now to get to work! Begin with your own family. You are John Jones. Your father was Henry Jones and your mother was Mary Smith. Your paternal grandfather was William Jones and his wife was Susan Brown, while, maternally, Grandfather Allen Smith had married Edith Johnson. Your great-grandfather, you think, was also named Henry. Father was named for him, wasn't he? But who the dickens was his wife? And mother's grandfather, wasn't his name Benjamin? Two bits, that's as far as you can go. I have met few people who know their complete ancestry as far back as four generations. Put all of that down and fill in such names of children as you may know. Then go to see your father, or great uncle, or any other older person who has known your family over a long period. Nearly every community has someone who has a gift for remembering such facts, perhaps two or three such people. Contact them, sit with them and jot down what they tell you. Even conjectures such as, "Now, I believe, but I'm not sure, that old man Henry Jones was a first cousin, or half-brother, or some relation, to old man Joe Johnson", may have great value later on. Exhaust every source of this type. Check and double-check what one tells you with what the next one has to say. It is a common

human weakness to forget. Old people are particularly liable to make mistakes.

FIRST STEPS IN RECORDING GENEALOGY—
When you have secured all the verbal information available, arrange it in intelligible fashion. My own suggestion is that you begin with an outline like this:

JONES

- II. (2) John Jones, b. Sept. 10, 1910; m., July 1, 1922, Alice Hendricks, b. August 1, 1911. Issue:
 - I. (1) Henry, b. August 9, 1924; d. inf., August 30, 1924
 - (2) John, Jr., b. May 8, 1926.
 - (3) Mary, b. April 2, 1928.
- III. (2) Henry Jones, b. August 1, 1880; m. June 1, 1905, Mary Smith, b. May 3, 1882, dau. of Allen Smith and Edith Johnson. Issue:
 - II. (1) Edith, b. July 6, 1906; d.s.p. May 10, 1930.
 - (2) John (see above).
 - (3) Alfred, b. October 17, 1913; m. Ann Adams, b. October 1, 1911, dau. of John Adams and Sarah Andrews: Issue:
 - I. (1) Alfred, Jr., b. April 11, 1930.
 - (2) Shirley, b. February 2, 1933.
 - (4) Smith, b. December 28, 1915; unm.
- IV. (3) William Jones, b. April 1, 1852; d. January 1, 1900; m., first Susan Brown, b. May 7, 1857, dau. of David Brown and Mary —; m., secondly, Agnes Williams, dau. of Herman Williams and —. Issue by first marriage:
 - III. (1) William, Jr., b. 1878; migrated to west; unheard of since.
 - (2) Henry (see above).
 - (3) Susan, d.inf.

Issue by second marriage.
- III. (4) Agnes, b. May 3, 1886; d.s.p. 1910; m. James Murphy.
- (5) Howard, b. May 30, 1889; m. Ellen Wood. No issue.
- V. (1) Henry Jones, b. January 10, 1825; d. 1882; m. Sarah — (believed to be Perry). Issue:

- IV. (1) John Perry, b. August 3, 1848. (From old family Bible in possession of Mrs. Jones Lawson, Jr., 301 S. Cherry St., Baltimore, Md.). No further information.
- (2) Mary Elizabeth, b. April 12, 1850; d. April 11, 1909 (old family Bible); m. Jonas Lawson. Issue:
- III. (1) Jonas Lawson, Jr., b. May 18, 1880; m. Ruth Rowe, b. April 21, 1891. No issue.
- (3) William (see above).
- VI. () — (Henry?) Jones, b. ca 1790; reputed to have married a daughter of Governor Simon Toler. Issue, perhaps among others:
- V. (1) Henry (see above).

Then do the same for the Smith family, the Browns, the Johnsons and all the others.

I suggest this form as good work sheet form, though in my chapter on Preserving Your Records I shall suggest the same form, completely reversed. I do this consciously because I have learned that it is easiest and best while in process of tracing to use yourself or children as "I." and trace back from the present generation. You can continue to add to the lines indefinitely. It is important to watch the numbers you use, be sure they are right, or you will hopelessly mix up your generations. Proper indenting is helpful in this regard, too.

ABBREVIATIONS—You noted, of course, the large number of abbreviations used above. They are necessary in order to conserve space and time. It would be well for you to learn the ones most commonly used. The following list is fairly complete:

b.	.	.	.	.	.	born
biog.	.	.	.	.	.	biography
bk.	.	.	.	.	.	book
bro.	.	.	.	.	.	brother

ca, or cir	around, about
co.	county
d.	died
D.B.	Deed Book
dau.	daughter
descs.	descendants
do.	ditto, the same
d.s.p.	died without issue
d. unm.	died unmarried
fam.	family
F.I.A.G.	Fellow, Institute of American Genealogy
Geneal.	genealogical
Hist. Soc.	Historical Society
I. A. G.	Institute American Genealogy
ibid	the same
gr-father	grandfather
gr-gr-father	great grandfather
inf.	infancy
Jr.	Junior
m.	married
mem.	member
ms.	manuscript
mss.	manuscripts
ob.	died
O.B.	Order Books
p.	page
pish.	parish
pp.	pages
Q.V.	which see
s.	son
sis.	sister
Sr.	Senior
supra	above
unm.	unmarried
Vol.	Volume
W.B.	Will Book

NEXT STEPS—Having carefully collected all available verbal and traditional information, and having

put it in such order that *you* know what it means, your next steps are: first, check what others have told you by any available records; and secondly, begin researching to discover the names and facts of even earlier generations. These steps will take you to the County Clerk's Office and to your nearest genealogical library.

At the clerk's office you will discover innumerable source materials. I suggest that you explain to the clerk what you are doing and ask his help. Many clerks have compiled indices of references to surnames in the county records. If such exist, it is your starting point. Otherwise, I suggest you begin with the Will Book. Nearly all clerk's offices have these books well indexed. Find the surnames in which you are interested and start your first serious research work. Make an extract of each will which may possibly have been made by a member of your family, no matter how remote the generation from your own first known ancestor in the county. A little extra time in copy work often saves long, time-consuming trips later. You may find that there is no record of a Henry Jones (VI) who could have been the father of your Henry Jones (V-1) as some of the old folks had suggested. But you will find the will of a John Jones of this same period who had sons Henry, Mark, and Moses. Of course, this reference alone is not conclusive proof, but it certainly gives you a good lead. Final verification may come from other wills, from the property willed, or from other records. But you have your clue!

Deed Books are very valuable to you in your searching, too. Transfers of property, names of witnesses or boundary land owners, incidental infor-

mation—all are extremely useful clues to help you in your search.

Then there are the Records of Marriages and Deaths. These are usually well indexed also. They offer a mass of names and dates which you must fit into your own record only as you are sure they belong there. This is sometimes very obvious from the bond or license itself; but many counties have several families with the same surnames and often even the same given names. Check carefully.

I have made greater use of Order Books than is customary among most genealogists. Not only have I found "flesh for my dry bones" as I shall indicate later, but I have found invaluable genealogical clues. Even the finding of a name at a certain period or in a given locality may be just the information needed to prove your hypothesis. Do not overlook the Order Books, even if they are, as is usual, poorly indexed and barely readable. They may contain the key that unlocks the door at which you are knocking.

There are other Records kept in the Clerk's office, varying in different states, but always possible gold mines. Again, the best suggestion I can offer is for you to consult with the clerk, arouse his interest and secure his help.

BEGINNER'S LIBRARY WORK—Your next step will be to visit your nearest genealogical library. Go to the nearest library, however small, and find out what they have in the way of genealogical source materials. They have only a shelf, perhaps only a few books or manuscripts about local history, but they may well be just what you need. A county history, genealogies

of other local families, contributed manuscripts, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings—any may be of value. Then find your nearest library with a good genealogical section. Most state libraries have excellent sections; some large city libraries go in for genealogy, though they are exceptions rather than the rule, and nearly every state has a state historical society with a more or less general collection of historical and genealogical materials.

Here, again, ask for help. In libraries with genealogical sections, some one or more of the attendants will be especially interested in that section. He or she will know what's there and how to find it. Let him know you are a beginner and he will very likely shower you with indices, magazines and many an old and musty tome. State historical magazines are number-one helps; take your time and look up every possible reference which may bear upon your search. In some states there are excellent indices to such magazines compiled in composite form. Swem's *Index to Virginia History and Genealogy* is by far the finest example of this type of work. If you can find a published or unpublished Parish Record for the parish in which your forefathers lived, you will be one of the lucky few—and you will have found a than-which-none-better source.

You have noted that throughout this chapter I have urged the beginner to ask questions. I end on that same note. You will learn only as you put aside timidity and ask about what you do not know. Failure to approach the right people, to elicit the help of the best informed, may well mean the failure of your whole attempt: the untimely end to an excellent hobby.

III

Furthering the Search

THE HOBBY GROWS—In this chapter I am assuming that you are no longer a green beginner in the field of genealogy. You have learned how to find your way about a clerk's office; you know something about researching in a library. You have gotten together about all of the information which is obtainable through local contacts and you have learned how to write it up. By now you should have five or six direct generations pretty well lined up, and good notes on some three or four collateral lines. My prediction is that you have found out a lot about families of the same name in your county or neighboring counties to which your search has led you, people who lived in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; but you have a blank period between 1750 and 1825 which seems to defy all of your efforts to build bridges between the rather easily ascertained last several generations and the mass of available information about earlier times. Don't be worried. All of us have faced that same problem. This chapter is devoted to suggestions about where you may find the

materials needed to substitute for the poor records, or no records, of that period; and to suggest means whereby you may check and add to what you have previously found. The sources suggested here will also be of invaluable help to those who have discovered to their dismay that the records of their counties have long since been burned or destroyed.

WIDENING CONTACTS—You have exhausted the information of people in your own community by now, but there is another source you have not tapped. You have discovered the vast number of collateral lines which have gone out from the forebears, but on your sheet they are dead-end lines, marked “descendants unknown.” Try this. Ask the old folk where the different branches have moved; they will have a general idea. Go to the nearest telephone company office and look through the phone list in neighboring towns and cities. Copy all names and addresses which might be in your set-up. At your library look up recent queries in genealogical magazines. I always go back fifteen years to find out whether someone else is working on the same genealogy. Look in the *Handbook of American Genealogy*. It’s *Who’s Who* section may furnish more names of researchers interested in your family, as may the *Compendium of American Genealogy*, both publications of the Institute of American Genealogy.

Usually there are to be found four volumes of the *Handbook* and seven volumes of the *Compendium* in most public libraries.

What to do with these names? Try this letter:

Date.

MR. HENRY A. JONES

1206 FOWLER AVE.

NEWTOWN, MD.

MY DEAR MR. JONES:

For sometime now I have been working on the genealogy of the Jones family of St. John's County. I have learned that you live in the same State and I have thought perhaps you might be of the same family. (Or as the case may be: "I have noted your queries about the Jones Family of Maryland"; or, "I have found from your biographical sketch in The Handbook".) I do not have a great deal of information as yet, but I would be happy to exchange such as I have for whatever you may have. Perhaps, if we are of the same family, we could be of mutual help to one another in researching common ancestors.

Let me know of your interest in this matter and kindly send me any information on this family which you may have.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH JONES.

Address:

Mr. Joseph Jones
Oldtown, Md.

If your experience is like mine, you will unearth many new facts as a result of this correspondence, not only about collateral lines, but also about that blank period around the founding of the nation. You will also discover where you may look for information about even earlier forebears. And you will discover many new friends.

RESEARCHING ARCHIVES—Each state has its archives department or division. Here are stored personal and property tax books, petitions to the state legislative body, military rosters and pay books, photo-

static copies of old and rare records from counties, and miscellaneous other types of records. You will find the Property Tax Books to be especially helpful. The same property in 1805 in the name of Robert Jones is listed in 1806 as belonging to John Jones. You are on your way to establishing another generation. Personal Property Books may be of value at this point. Sometimes they list the names of the children in a family. A caution here: these lists of children may not be complete. Often they include only those over sixteen years of age.

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS—Probably the best place for you to go to find evidence which will finally establish Robert as father of John is to the Bureau of Vital Statistics. Your difficulty here may be that there were no records of births and deaths kept at so early a time. If that is the case, look up John's death, or his marriage. His father's name may appear on either record, according to the form in use at that time.

THE INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY—Several references have already been made to the Institute of American Genealogy. There are other genealogical societies, some of them with even higher standards of collecting and disseminating information than those of the Institute. I have not included them in this handbook because most of them are either too limited in their scope or too expensive for the average hobbyist. I am committed to support of the Institute of American Genealogy because I believe it has the best chance of becoming the great

American clearing-house of genealogical information. Its overall organization and goals exceed any other such society's, and I believe its weaknesses will be corrected as its financial support becomes more adequate. Its annual *Handbook* is good and continues to improve. Its publication, *The Magazine of American Genealogy*, is an extremely worthwhile venture, but its issuance is so slow and uncertain as *The Compendium of American Genealogy*, is composed of contributions from reliable genealogists. While it is not entirely without error, due to the type of material it necessarily contains, every effort is made to make it as free of such errors as possible and the work is a very valuable guide in any genealogical research.

It will perhaps seem that I have gone out of my way to be critical of the Institute. If I have, it is for two reasons: first, because I am recommending it to you as one of the finest contacts you can make as a researcher; and, secondly, because there are some genealogists who will point out its deficiencies to you without troubling to catalog its virtues. With its recognized faults, and with its many virtues, it is our best chance of building a great American Genealogical clearing-house.

I strongly urge every amateur genealogist to join the Institute. Its fee of ten dollars a year is very reasonable considering the services you will receive. Membership in the Institute includes, besides the magazine and other publications (does not include the *Compendium*), membership in the Institute Library.

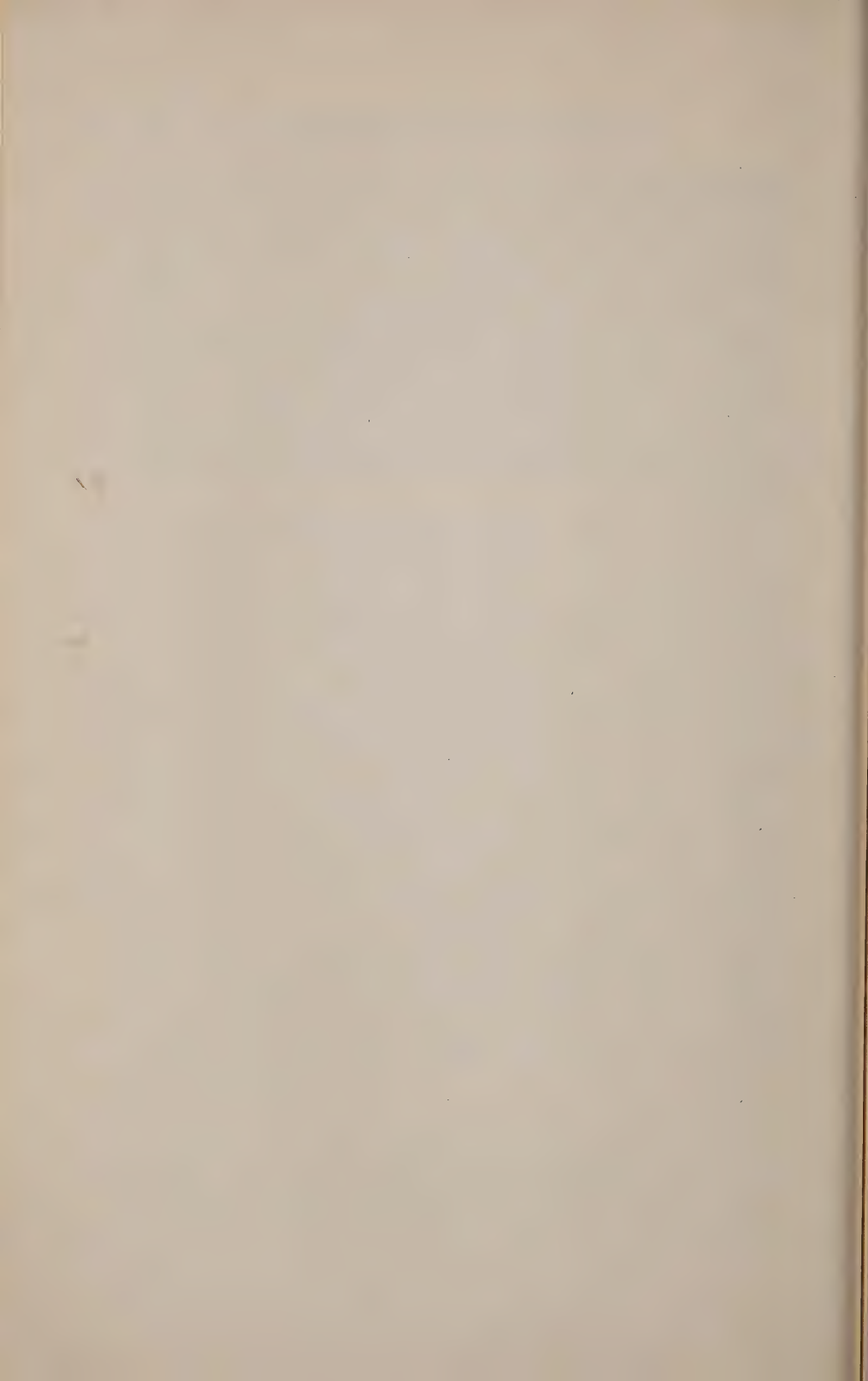
THE INSTITUTE LIBRARY—Cards entitling members to use the library are issued upon request and are reissued annually. This card is sent with each request for books or manuscripts which you wish to borrow. Not more than three may be borrowed at one time. You pay postage both ways. You are provided with printed index to all available books, and you receive lists of additional accessions throughout the year. To the hobbyist who lives far from genealogical libraries this is a nearly indispensable service.

PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS—If you reach an impasse in your research, you may always turn to a professional genealogist for help. There are many splendid and honest professionals. There are many who are honest but who do not have the background or ability to do a truly professional grade of work. And, unfortunately, there are those who are not bothered by conscience if a fee is involved. Avoid the genealogist who guarantees anything, and do not make the mistake of paying for successful researches only. The unsuccessful search costs just as much in time and labor and definitely establishes that hypotheses were incorrect. Particularly avoid "canned" genealogies offered at two dollars, five dollars or whatever price. They are not worth the time it takes you to write the letter asking for them.

Be sure of your genealogist, then place full faith in his suggestions.

FOREIGN SOURCES—You will in time reach the end of some of your American lines. Unless you have a great deal of money for travelling, you will have to

depend from that point upon standard European reference works or upon professional European genealogists. Most good libraries have Burke's *Peerage*. Marshall's *Guide to Printed Pedigrees of Great Britain*, while old, is still valuable. Thomson's *British Family Histories* and Moulton's *Catalogue of Historical Documents, etc.*" are helpful as complements to Marshall's volume. *The Handbook of American Genealogy* lists names of European genealogical societies and of accredited professional genealogists.



IV

Making It Interesting

DRY BONES—Genealogy can be fascinating or uninteresting depending upon the form and style of its presentation. More names and dates make dull reading—and who particularly cares whether his fifth direct forbear was named Joseph? But when Forefather Joseph is identified as the member of the House of Burgesses, who also built the old family seat, he becomes a personage. The more such information you can find, the more your hobby will assume meaning for yourself and for the members of your family. My constant plea to fellow genealogists is to save us from boredom by putting flesh on the dry-bones of a genealogical outline.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES—I make it a point to garner as much biographical information about every person listed in my genealogies as it is possible for me to obtain. And that goes for collateral kin as well as direct ancestors. By use of abbreviations and by eliminating all descriptive words, these biographies can be limited to few words, and yet get the story

told. Do not be too wordy in any biography which is to be included in the body of the genealogy. If you come across a character or personality who deserves a larger notice, write him up separately. Often you will be able to compile enough information to make an interesting sketch of a forgotten figure, a work that will be gladly accepted for publication by either the local press or the state historical magazine.

These sketches should include whatever interesting facts you can find: educational background, military service, service to the state or community, offices held, and other obtainable facts. Then you can fit your subject into the perspective of the time in which he lived—depressions, wars, booms. You may also be able to reconstruct something of his thought on the public matters of his day. Letters, signed petitions, how he voted on contemporary political questions, or his vote in political assemblies of which he may have been a member, all these are pertinent, perhaps an original contribution to the history of your state. Biography is genealogy's life blood!

TRADITIONS—As you compile your family history, you will learn that certain things were held as cherished traditions by older members of the family. I have always been proud that it was an unbroken tradition in my mother's family never to sell a slave except when marriage was involved. As a boy I liked to hear the old folks talk about how "Grandpa" refused large sums of money for this or that slave. Some families have interesting traditions about the sale of their land or its inheritance. Some have traditional associations with fraternal orders, such as the

Masons, while others have been, generation after generation, office holders in the church or county. Whatever the tradition, include it. It will increase the reader's interest in your records.

STORIES, TOO—And don't leave out anecdotes and stories of interest. Family ghosts have a real place in the history of any family, as do stories of peculiar characteristics. Old uncle Curtis, a peculiar bachelor, kept his coffin under his bed for years. Occasionally he would try it for size. There came the time when, having grown fat, he got stuck and stayed for several hours until a nephew came by and freed him. A few tales like that catch anybody's attention, especially that of a youngster not too anxious to learn about his kinfolks.

PHOTOGRAPHS—A file of photographs will be helpful to you in visualizing the people whose lives you are reconstructing by your research. Such a file will also be of possible value as illustrative material should you ever publish a history of your family. Tin-types, early portraits, photographs—all are worth your while if you are a serious genealogist.

OLD HOMES—And don't neglect the stories of old homes and plantations where your family have lived through the generations. Family seats often have histories more colorful than the persons who lived in them. Famous guests, tragic occurrences, historically significant events, all of these make intensely interesting accounts and help in making your hobby inter-

esting to you and to others. Descriptions of rose gardens or formal gardens, of outside kitchens, of old houses, of carriages and phaetons and gigs, of thoroughbreds and hunters, of balls and fox-hunts, of the life which has centered around the "old place"—all will contribute their bit to making your research more than a hobby. Indeed, by learning of the gentle ways of the past, it is entirely possible that present and future generations of your family may be inspired to emulation.

But what if there were no "family seats"? What does it matter? Log cabin, pioneer's hut, country mansion or just an ordinary house, all have their stories if they were homes. Don't be too concerned about "big" homes or names. Almost all of us came from poor ancestors who came to America for that very reason. The chief value of genealogical research is not to puff up your vanity but to find the facts. In doing so you may well find that character and money do not always walk hand-in-hand.

V

Royal Lineages

COMMONPLACE—Do not skip this chapter because you think you have no interest in it. Royal lineages are rather commonplace, but most people know nothing about them. There are several reasons for this lack of knowledge about Royal Lineages in America. The first is that you usually have to go many generations back, fourteen or fifteen at least, before making the contact, and then you may have several more generations to track down before you find your direct ancestors in Ruling Houses. True, your bloodstream will not flow too blue from such distinguished ancestry so far removed, but in this day of theorizing about how traits are determined and handed down we find some may still survive in us. At least a Crusader who was actually one of his family can serve as a splendid hero for your boy; or a beautiful and good queen, who was her ever-so-many-times-great-grandmother, may inspire your daughter.

Another reason why Royal Lineages so often remain undiscovered is that early Americans played down such connections. Anyone who spoke of his descent from Royalty from 1750 on was placing him-

self under suspicion of being a supporter of the King. Many feared the rise of an hereditary nobility in America and the mass were determined that such should not be the case.

When one considers how many children were born to Royalty and how impossible it was to arrange royal marriages for all of them, he readily sees that there must be millions of commoners in the world today with royal ancestors. For instance, if in 1600 a fourth daughter of a King married an Earl and had four children, two of whom married lesser nobility, you have only a further step to go and you will find the Earl's grandchildren marrying commoners. Estimating an average of three children in the intervening generations between now and then, there are in the world today nearly four hundred thousand lineal descendants of that king. Many of the early Cavalier immigrants, and not a few others, had royal blood but few generations removed. You may well find that your early ancestors were royally descended.

RESEARCHING ROYAL LINEAGES—Once you have tied into one of the early colonial families of royal descent, you will not have a great deal of trouble furthering your research. The *Encyclopedia Britannica* has very complete sketches, including much genealogical material, about the royal families of Europe. If your colonial family happens to have been written up in historical magazines, or if you can find an European genealogy with your line included, your search is at an end. You will need only to copy the immense amount of information which will readily open before you.

However, if you only suspect a royal ancestry, or if you know of none but would like to try to locate one, read books like Rixford's *Royal Families in Europe and Mayflower Descendants*; look up references in historical magazines and especially make careful check of the magazine *Americana*. Books about Royal Lineages will not help you until you have connected up with one such line. Then get any one of a number of books on Royal Genealogy and connect yourself with characters you have read about in history but from whom you had no small idea you were descended. H. B. George's *Genealogical Tables and Charts of the Reigning Houses of Europe* (revised by Weaver in 1930) will be found particularly helpful. Glean your skeleton information from such charts and books, and then fill in from *Britanica* or some equally good encyclopedia.

CAUTION—There are many spurious “royal descents” in existence, descents which have been forced to fit the researcher's purpose rather than to get at facts. Make close checks on all information published on this side of the Atlantic, especially those in genealogical articles or manuscripts. They are often full of errors. European lineages of royalty are usually correct except for minor details.

VI

Heraldry

COATS-OF-ARMS—America has become heraldry-conscious during the last half-century. Everybody wants a coat-of-arms. The results have been rather disastrous. Heraldric artists have sought to provide coats-of-arms for families who had no more than a surname as proof of their claim. Many American families do possess arms, but when exhibited they should be the correct ones. It is to be hoped that the Institute of American Genealogy may some day establish a Division of Heraldry to pass upon all claims to arms by American families and to provide much better guides than we now have as to who among the early immigrants had rights to arms.

AUTHORITIES—Among the best sources of heraldric information to be found in most genealogical libraries are Burke's *General Armory* and Fairbank's *Crests. Armorial Universel* (French) by W. R. Blake and Bolton's *American Armory* are helpful, too, but not as frequently found.

WHAT IS HERALDRY? — Using Burke's *General Armory* as a guide, the following paragraphs attempt to answer your question.

Modern heraldry had its origin in the time of the Holy Wars and in those "extraordinary times of reality and romance, of barbarism and civilization" when feudalism was still the social order. Of the trappings of feudalism, only heraldry survives. In continental Europe heraldry has been esteemed as a privilege of nobility only. In England, however, a coat-of-arms has always been "the indispensable appendage of a gentleman" and an object of pride and display.

In a real sense heraldry is co-existent with man—for always man has realized the need of a means by which to identify himself. "Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house" (Numbers, 2: 2). Advancing with the train of civilization, the rude devices of early times have assumed systematic form, which we know as heraldry.

Originally all arms were granted by the King, usually for meritorious civic or military service. This duty becoming burdensome, Richard III constituted the College of Arms whose privilege it was to grant and inspect the arms borne by the gentry and nobility. About once every thirty years an inspection was held to cause the gentry "to produce and show by what authority and right they challenged and claimed the use of arms." Then, as now, only those to whom grants had been made, or those who were able to show descent from an ancestor entitled to armorial ensigns were allowed possession of this "incontrovertible evidence of honor and blood".

One of the principal show-places for heraldry was the tournament. It was customary for those who participated to be attired in complete warlike habit and equipage, with arms emblazoned upon their shields, surcoats and caparisons. The Esquire preceded the Knight, bearing in his right hand his master's tilting spear and in his left the timbre or helmet, surmounted by his crest, adorned with pieces of silk—often mistresses' favors—and arms. These arms were “hereditary marks of honor, regularly composed of certain tinctures and figures granted by the Sovereigns for distinguishing, differencing and illustrating Persons, Families and Communities”.

THE PRIVILEGE OF ARM-BEARING—Those who are entitled to arms should cherish them as tokens of a glorious past. It should be recognized by all Americans that hereditary coats-of-arms should only be possessed by those who are entitled to them by inheritance. It is as reprehensible to purloin this family possession as any other. Possession can only be shown by genealogical research which proves descent from arms-bearing ancestors. Pseudo-genealogists have capitalized on the increasing heraldry-consciousness of Americans to spread coats-of-arms pell-mell over the land. It is absurd, but not uncommon, to find a coat-of-arms displayed in a home where the family could not prove an ancestry of more than three or four generations.

PROFESSIONAL HERALDRISTS—When you decide to have a coat-of-arms or a crest painted, consult the best heraldic artist you know, or one recommended

by a reputable source. Be polite but firm in informing him that you will accept and pay for the finished work only if he has followed in exact detail the description you have provided. And be sure *you* provide the description; never trust that to the artist. He may be the best artist, but proving the right to a coat-of-arms is the work of a genealogist, and not that of an artist.

CAUTION—Never try to get a “cheap” job on a coat-of-arms. They should become family heirlooms and last for many generations. Beware of the artists who have a special low price and do a mass-production job. Particularly be sure that your gold and silver tinctures are genuine and that the board upon which it is painted is of high and lasting quality.

What's in a Name?

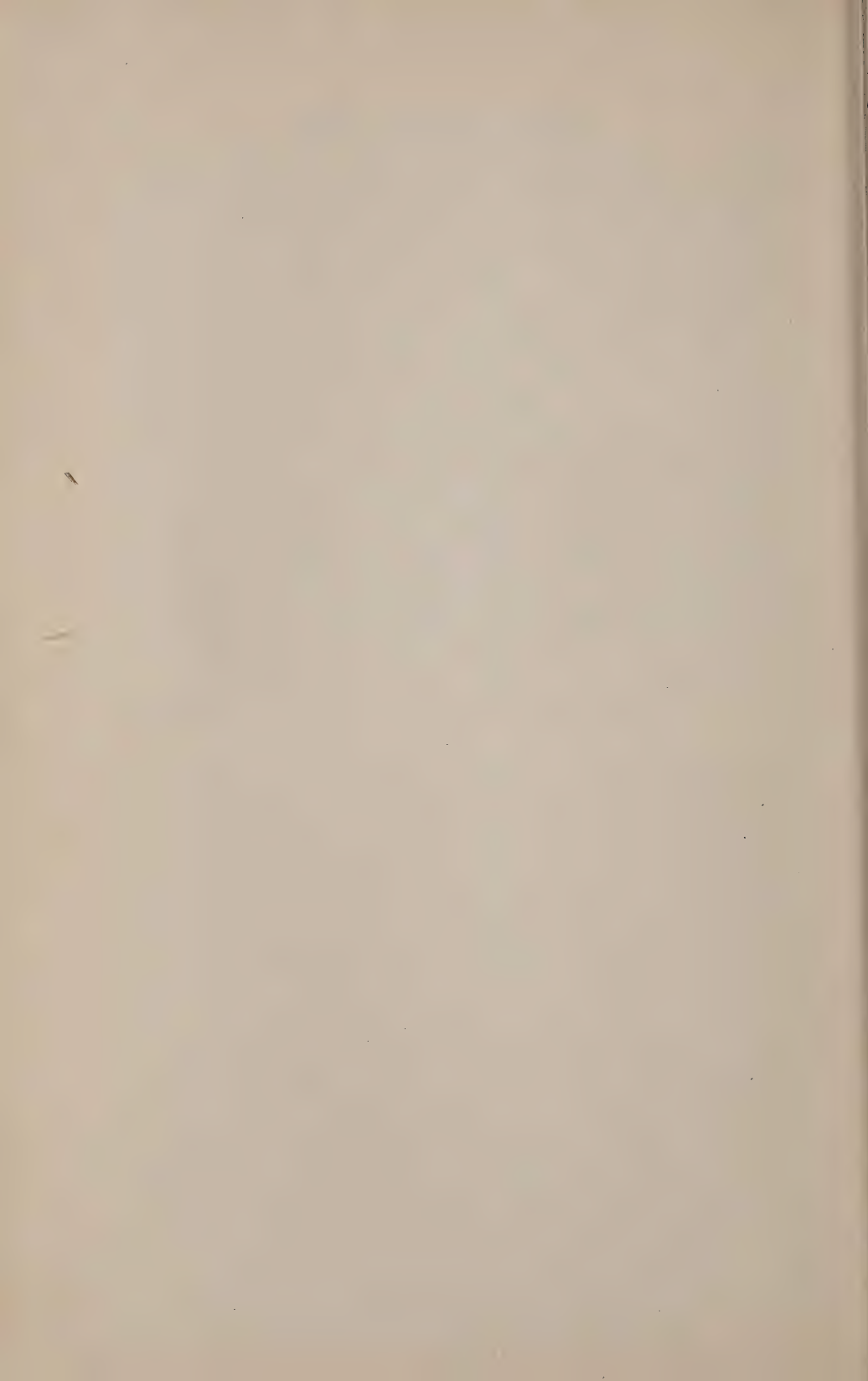
NAMES HAVE MEANING—An incidental, but interesting, phase of the hobby of genealogy is name etymology, the study of the origin and derivation of names. Most surnames have some significance. For instance, it was customary in the early days of feudalism to distinguish two neighbors having the same name by some epithet denoting their respective social condition or trade, as John Le Bond or John Le Free; or, John the Smith or John the Mason. In time these became Bond, Free or Freeman, Smith, Goldsmith, Mason, etc. A great host of names came about in just this fashion.

Other names had different derivations. The name Armstrong, as an example, has quite an interesting legend. It is said that an ancient King of Scotland, having his horse killed under him in battle, was immediately remounted by his armor-bearer who grasped the King by his thighs and set him on his saddle. For this timely assistance the King gave him lands and assigned him the name of "Armstrong", with a crest. This crest was an armed hand and arm; in the left hand a leg and foot in armor, couped at the thigh.

It is interesting to note how names have changed as they have been handed down from generation to generation. Our present surname Arnold no doubt derives from the ancient name Arnult which meant "eagle-wolf", symbolizing a ferocious fighter. It was not too great a change to go from Arnult to Arnall—and thence to Arnell, Arnall and Arnold, all surnames found throughout the English-speaking world today. Similarly, Hopekyns has passed successively through Hopkyns to Hopkyns to Hopkins; Randulf has passed into Randolph and Randle; Le Strange has become Strong; Astleigh has become Astley; and, in our day we are witnessing the exodus of Smith to Smythe, the wholesale changing of "i" to "y", the adding or leaving off an "e", the doubling of consonants; and all for the same reason that brought about surnames in the first place—that the bearer may be distinguished from others of the same name.

SOURCE MATERIALS—If you are interested in searching out the meaning of your name, or of names in your line, it is not too difficult a task. Many libraries which do not have genealogical sections will have one or more good books on name etymology. Among the old faithfals which are still used as authorities are Sim's *Scottish Surnames* and Bradsley's *English Surnames*. Barber's *British Family Names* will be found full of good information. A good book of much later vintage, though limited in its coverage, is Gates' *Surname Book and Racial History*. Others equally as good are legion. You will have no difficulty in finding the books, but rather in making a choice as to which explanation of several different ones you prefer, for etymologists are by no means in agreement.

PRONUNCIATIONS ARE DECEIVING—It is generally held that the proper pronunciation of a name, regardless of its spelling, is that given it by the family who bears it. This has given rise to many strange pronunciations, particularly in England and in the Southern States. There is, for instance, the Presson Family. Be careful! They are not Pres-son, they are "Pres-sey". The Callowhills are "Carrolls"; the Taliaferros are "Tollivers"; the Ironmongers are "'Mongers"; the Derbys are "Darbys." And the list would fill a book. Several of the newer studies in name etymology give quite good listings of these exceptional pronunciations. Are you using the ancient pronunciation of your name, or has your family used its prerogative and pronounced it as it is spelled?



VIII

Preserving Your Records

DO NOT WAIT—Do not wait until you have completed all you want to know about your family before you put your records into permanent form and thereby make them available to others. If you do wait until such a time, you will die with a mass of records in your files, many of which will have meaning only to you. You owe it to yourself, to your family and to your hobby, to put what you find in such form that others will not have to retrace the ground you have covered, thereby freeing them to further the research you have begun. I do not mean by this that you should put your records in permanent form before you feel sure that they are historically correct.

THE MANUSCRIPT—When you have traced a line through as many generations as you can find for the time being, and when you have collected such biographical and other interesting facts as may be readily located, collect and collate all of this data into one manuscript, preparing it carefully and meticulously. This does not mean that your work on this particular line is finished. You will continue to collect information and you will continue to carry the line farther

back. Occasionally you will have to revise your manuscript, or make an addendum to it. But, should anything happen to you, it is in such form and condition that others will be able to take up where you left off.

If you do not intend to have your genealogy published, it is very important that you have several copies of your manuscript made. For your own protection, do not keep all these together; a fire can wipe out years of research in a few minutes. It is a wise procedure to place one copy in your safety deposit box and to send another to either your state historical society or your state library. A third copy should be sent to the Institute of American Genealogy.

LINEAGE RECORD BOOKS—Lineage record books are much too limited to be of much value to the serious hobbyist. Too much space is wasted in blanks that will never be filled in, and no space is allowed for so much that you will want to include. Complete with Coats-of-Arms and name derivations, they do make good wedding or Christmas presents. Avoid them as guides to good genealogical research or as necessary material. They are to genealogy what a dollar album is to stamp collecting.

PEDIGREE CHARTS—Pedigree Charts are interesting and impressive for exhibition purposes, but they are of little value to the hobbyist. As a recreation, he will enjoy preparing such charts and probably will have them photostated for Christmas gifts to his relatives, but he will religiously avoid them as a method of keeping his records. Such charts soon become

cluttered with facts or their spaces become exhausted. They are usually confusing to the uninitiated.

DO NOT STOP WITH A MANUSCRIPT—If your research is a worthwhile contribution in the field of genealogy, it should not stop with a manuscript. Manuscripts can not have proper distribution and will soon deteriorate if circulated. There are several alternatives open to you and none are particularly expensive. They can, in fact, be made to pay for themselves and for the expense of your research. I shall suggest several types of permanent preservation, and add a paragraph on how to finance publication.

MINEOGRAPHED OR PLANOGRAPHED—If you do not feel that you can finance the printing of a book, or if you wish to wait until your research is more complete before perpetuating your genealogy in the more substantial form of a book, you will find either mimeographing or planographing very satisfactory. Mimeographing is much the least expensive manner of giving wide circulation to your research. Perhaps you can type the stencils yourself, or have them typed at no great cost by some stenographer in her spare time. You can usually borrow a mimeograph machine from the office of a friend or from your church office. In the event you feel this will over-burden you or that it is not practical in your situation to borrow a machine, your nearest large city will no doubt have several companies who specialize in mimeograph work. The price charged by such companies is usually not prohibitive, and in most cases you can get considerable reduction on unit prices

because of the bulk of the job you wish done. These companies will also arrange convenient terms if such are desirable.

Planographing is somewhat more expensive but much neater. Frequently the same firms who specialize in mimeographed work will also have facilities for planographing. By this method you can reproduce every page of your manuscript in what is virtually the printed form, and in any quantity. This method is less costly because it saves typesetting and proofreading.

After either mimeographing or planographing, you will want to bind your monograph with a good grade of material. Naturally, leather, fabrikoid or cloth are more desirable, but if the expenses are already taxing you, a heavy but flexible paper will do. Most small printing shops can take care of this type of binding for a few cents a book. Binder tape will make an acceptable "back" for the book.

BOOK FORM—By all means, if you can swing it financially, preserve your records in book form. They will be neater, more valued and they will last longer in this form than in any other. If you decide to publish a book, be sure that you get a publisher who has experience in printing genealogies. They are decidedly different from other publications. Particularly, they require very careful proof-reading *and proof re-reading*. It is important that a good grade of paper be used and that indentations, if used, be spaced similarly throughout the book. If you have only a small amount of research you wish printed, small local printshops will usually do a good job on pamph-

lets or booklets. In such instances, *you* must assume complete responsibility for the whole job: guiding, outlining, proof-reading. The printer will give you what you want only if you clearly make him understand what it is that you want. I repeat, however, if you want the best, then, by all means, seek the services and facilities of a recognized firm of genealogical printers.

FINANCING PUBLICATION—If you are not so well-to-do that you can afford a private printing for private distribution, there are still ways of financing your genealogical publication.

First, after you have reached the place in your preparation of the manuscript that you know what the contents will be, how many names will be included in the index, about how many pages there will be and the type of publication, get, or make, an estimate of the total cost of publication, divide it by the number you intend to publish and arrive at your per volume cost. Then prepare an announcement like this:

To Be Published Soon
JONES OF ST. JOHN COUNTY
by
JOHN J. JONES
Attorney-at-Law

This genealogy will be printed on 60-pound bond paper with deckled edges; about two hundred pages, completely indexed; fabrikoid binding; an edition of three hundred copies, autographed and numbered. The book will go to press as soon as enough orders have been received to warrant its publication. Pre-publication price—\$10.00; post-publication price—\$15.00. Pay upon receipt of book.

JOSEPH J. JONES.

210 CHERRY ST.

OLDTOWN, MD.

Use a one-cent United States Postal Card, printed. Printing the card is preferable to mimeographing; its added neatness makes for a better impression of the volume advertised.

Your next step is to make a mailing list for yourself. Put down the name and address of every family unit whose names will appear in your book. Many of them will order immediately, but some will wait until they have seen the completed book. Do not be too disappointed if your original card advertisement does not bring as many orders from the family as you had hoped. You can depend upon the family to come across later. Mail a special Christmas gift advertisement of your genealogies to the unchecked names on your mailing list. Last year more copies of my first book, which was published eleven years ago, were sold than I had sold any year since the first. Demand tends to increase as the years go by.

There is another list which has proved a gold mine of orders. I culled through the reference books which can be found in practically all large libraries, one of the best of which is Patterson's *Educational Directory*, and prepared for myself a list of libraries with 60,000 volumes or more and added to that all libraries in my state. Also included were all genealogical libraries which could be located. To all of these I sent announcements and received many orders in return.

BEST METHOD OF PREPARING RECORDS—As you will have learned long before you are ready to prepare your records for publication, there are many methods of presenting genealogy to the public, most of them so confusing that by the time one has read a few

pages he is hopelessly lost. Involved number systems; the use of alphabetical letters; serial numbers for each descendant, each one having his own number; all have been tried, and none has been very clear. One of the better examples of such systems is what Henry S. Jacoby calls the Decimal System in his article "How to Reduce the Cost of Printed Genealogies" in *The Magazine of American Genealogy*, April, 1930. He describes the system at length:

"The system is based directly upon relationship. The children of the immigrant ancestor are numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., in chronological order; those of No. 2 are 21, 22, 23, etc.; those of 23 are 231, 232, etc.; those of 231 are 2311, 2312, etc.; and so on as far as required. The relationship of any two descendants is obtained by comparing their index numbers, thus: 213 and 229 are first cousins—since they have the same grandparent 2; while 13164 and 12486 are third cousins. In case 237 has 14 children, the 13th child is numbered 237.13, thus indicating that the number 13 is to be treated as any single numeral. The fifth child of 237.13 is 237.13.5.

If 432 represents a daughter, her first husband is designated as 432-a, and her second husband 432-b. If 432 were a son, his wives would be designated in the same manner. If the daughter's second husband had been married previously, his first wife is 432-b-a. In this manner any relationship by marriage can be clearly indicated. The origin and history of this system and a few others are given in the *Jacoby Family Genealogy* published in 1930.

"In using this system the name of each descendant in a biographic record is preceded by the index number. The name of that descendant's husband (or wife) is followed by the index number enclosed in parenthesis. Any reference in the book to either of these persons is made by means of the name followed by the index number in a parenthesis. No matter how many descendants have the forename of John, the reference will always be specific. The biographic records are arranged in numerical order. In the chapter on lineage charts the index number also precedes the name of the descendant, but in this case the names are arranged in numerical order provided we assume that all numbers are decimal fractions. The numbers form the key to the small indentations of the separate horizontal lines on the page."

As stated before, I do not care for this method of presentation. I like much better the simple outline form suggested in an earlier chapter. There I suggested that it is more practical to begin genealogical research by allowing Roman Numeral "I" in the record to stand for the latest member of the family and then continue on down the numerals as each succeeding ancestor is identified. This saves much re-writing. However, when you are preparing your records in a permanent form, begin by numbering the first American generation as I. Then each Roman Numeral will represent the American generation. In my books I have always separated European and American ancestry—for one reason because I am not usually willing to accept too much responsibility for the accuracy of the second and third-hand European sources available to researchers in America. Then it usually helps to keep the record clearer by keeping the two lines separated from each other. I use the following system, much like you once used in outlining school-day themes:

- I. First American Generation (see XIV (3), Chap. II, English Ancestry). He married — and had issue:

Note: It is important to be specific in your reference to the first American Ancestor's place in the European Line where such has been given. The "XIV (3), Chap. II" above means that the first American Ancestor is the third child of the fourteenth generation of the known English Ancestry, a fact contained in Chapter II of the book.

- II. (1) Second American Generation, first child in family.
(2) Second American Generation, second child in family.
(3) Second American Generation, third child in family.
- III. (1) Third American Generation, first child in family.
(q.v.)

(2) Third American Generation, second child in family. (q.v.)

(4) Second American Generation, fourth child in family. Issue:

III. (1) Third American Generation, first child in family. (q.v.)

III. (1)—see above.

Third American Generation, son of Second American Generation and his wife —, married —. Issue:

IV. (1) Fourth American Generation, first child in family. (q.v.)

(2) Fourth American Generation, second child in family. Issue:

V. (1) Fifth American Generation, first child in family.

(2) Fifth American Generation, second child in family. Issue:

VI. (1) Sixth American Generation, first child in family. Issue:

VII. (1) Seventh American Generation, first child in family.

(2) Seventh American Generation, second child in family. (q.v.)

(2) Sixth American Generation, second child in family.

(3) Sixth American Generation, third child in family.

III. (1)—see p. —.

Third American Generation, daughter of Second American Generation and his wife —, married —. Issue:

IV. (1) Fourth American Generation; etc., etc.

V. (1)—see p. —.

Fifth American Generation, son of Third American Generation and his wife —, married —, Issue:

V. (1) Fifth American Generation; etc., etc.

VII. (2)—see p. —.

Seventh American Generation, son of Sixth American

YOUR FAMILY TREE

Generation and her husband —, married —.

Issue:

VIII. (1) Eighth American Generation; etc., etc.

As far as is practical, I try to use separate chapters for branches of the family which have moved into new communities or States. For instance, if one of the third generation of the Jones of St. John County moved to New County, Pennsylvania, I would begin a new chapter.

Chapter V.

The Jones of New County, Pennsylvania.

III. (1)—see page —.

Third American Generation moved to New County, Pennsylvania in 1830. Sketch of life. Issue:

S P E C I M E N S

Demonstrating this more practically, I quote excerpts from my historical monograph *Freeman Forbears*.

(1) example of a biographical sketch:

Lieutenant-Colonel Bridges Freeman

—A biographical sketch—

One of the most typical of early Virginia's gentleman settlers was Lieutenant-Colonel Bridges Freeman. In a sense, he is a prototype of the great mass of early Virginians. He was prominent, yet not so well-known as to ever heretofore have had the facts of his life collected together into a biographical sketch. He was rich, only after a long struggle up from poverty. He was influential, but not until the years had proven that he could master each task assigned him; each small task done well leading to some new and larger public responsibility. His career was certainly not meteoric, but he was one of many like him who built solidly and firmly the foundations of American democracy.

Born in England around 1603 (1), he came to America as a lad in his later 'teens in 1622. He may have served an indenture period with Captain Martin at Martin's Brandon. At any rate, he and James Sleight, evidently a youth of his own age, rented a cabin and parcel of land in 1627 at Martin's Brandon for which they were to pay a rental of two capons and two pullets. (2) Their contract seems to have been supposed to run until the end of the

year, but the Court for James City County gave them permission to move "from Martin's Brandon to some place or plantation where they may live more secured," May 21, 1627. (3) At the General Court, January 22, 1628, Freeman was ordered to pay for curing the wounds of David Minton whom he had given a very sound thrashing. Minton sued for damages, but was given none because the Court held he had provoked the fight with "bad words." (4) This was evidently not held against Freeman, for on March 7, 1628, he was named to his first public office, Commander of the Magazine. (5)

It is entirely probable that he had already had military experience against the Indians, and that this and subsequent military titles he was to hold, signified his position in the military establishment of early Virginia. No definite records are available to prove this, but his steady advance as noted by his titles indicates that he must have proven himself a skilled warrior. He was successively Commander of the Magazine, Adjutant, Captain and Lieutenant Colonel.

At the same time he was rising in military life, he also was rising in civil affairs. On March 4, 1629-30 he first took his seat as a Burgess, sitting as a representative of Pasbyhoy (also spelled Pasbeyhoigh). At this time he was about twenty-six years of age. (6) In September, 1632, he was a member from Checohominy (Chickahominy) while John Corker was representing his erstwhile constituency at Pasbeyhoigh. (7)

The chief contributions of these sessions of the Assembly were associated with the religious development of the Colony. Most of us today would disagree heartily with the statutes as written, but would agree that it was through the interest of men who could phrase such statutes that American democracy became so closely allied to religion. At the Assembly in 1630, among the laws passed was one which bade all ministers of the Colony to conform to the canons of the Church of England. In 1632, additional laws were passed which set up penalties for not attending church and for disparaging a minister. At that Assembly, it was also voted to allow ministers the following fees:

for marriages . . .	2/0
for churchinge . . .	1/0
for burrying . . .	1/0

Other significant actions to these Assemblies in which Freeman participated were the vote to establish a fort at Point Comfort and a vote to continue war on the Indians, "and that no peace be made with them." In 1632, monthly courts of justice were set up. (8)

In 1635, he arranged for the transportation of his wife-to-be, Bridget. (9) From references made in Surry County records, it is evident that she was a daughter of Francis Fowler, Burgess in 1642, with whom Freeman was closely associated in business. Accompanying Bridget to the New World was Bridget's brother, Bennett. (10)

With his marriage, Freeman began to settle down to the accumulation of an estate. On December 1, 1635, he patented one hundred and fifty acres of land in James City County. (11)

On August 11, 1637, he and Francis Fowler patented nine hundred acres, probably on the Chickahominy. On August 12, 1637, he patented one hundred acres on the east side of the Chickahominy. On August 5, 1640, an additional one hundred acres was patented, "lying in the woodyard, adjoining Southerly unto four hundred acres now in possession of said Freeman." (12) Later we find that eight hundred acres granted to both Freeman and Fowler are patented solely by Freeman. This land was originally allowed for transporting eighteen people to Virginia. (13)

"Captain" Freeman was a Burgess from James City County in 1647. (14) In that same year he was named as Collector of Public Levies for Chickahominy and Sandy Poynte. (15)

"Adjutant" Freeman served on a Court held at Jamestown, November 6, 1651. (16)

Freeman was named to the Virginia Council of State, April 30, 1652. (17) After this he is usually referred to as "Lieutenant-Colonel", "Colonel", or "Councillor." He was re-elected in 1655. (18) How long he served or when he died is not known.

Undoubtedly much more could be uncovered about this early American if more intensive research were made. Even the small amount of data here presented shows him to have been a man of ambition and energy, endowed with a good business mind and one who inspired trust and confidence in his fellows. It was by Bridges Freeman and men like him that the American way of life was established.

NOTES

- (1) The Minutes of the Council and General Court of Virginia, 1629, states that he was about twenty-six years old.
 - (2) *ibid.*, p. 151.
 - (3) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 4, p. 160.
 - (4) *The Minutes of the Council and General Court of Virginia*, p. 182.
 - (5) *ibid.*, p. 192.
 - (6) *Henings Statutes*, Vol. I, p. 148.
 - (7) *ibid.*, p. 178.
 - (8) *ibid.*, p. 148 ff. and 178 ff.
 - (9) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 4, p. 222.
 - (10) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 4, p. 222.
 - (11) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 4, p. 222.
 - (12) *William and Mary Historical Quarterly*, First Series, Vol. 4, p. 202.
 - (13) *Virginia Magazine of History Biography*, Vol. 4, p. 224; for different date see *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 7, p. 298.
 - (14) *Henings Statutes*, Vol. I, p. 339.
 - (15) *ibid.*, 342.
 - (16) *William and Mary Historical Quarterly*, First Series, Vol. 4, p. 202.
 - (17) *Henings Statutes*.
 - (18) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 2, p. 310.
 - (19) *York County Order Book*, 1678.
- (2) Example of a "flesh on dry bones" presentation of a genealogy:

DESCENDANTS OF SARAH FREEMAN WATKINS

The Watkins Family of York County, Va. is one of the truly great first families of Virginia. The progenitor of the family was Thomas Watkins, b. 1600, who immigrated to Virginia in 1635 on the ship "Constant." He married Faith —, who bore him four sons: (1) Richard b. ca. 1637, d. unm. 1681. His Will, recorded in York W.B. 6, p. 383, is an interesting document as to the equipage of a bachelor gentleman of the time; (2) Henry, b. ca. 1639, who moved to Henrico Co. in 1675 and purchased land in "Turkey Island." His great-great grandson was the statesman, Henry Clay. (3) William Watkins, b. ca. 1639, d. 1703, from whom descended the Poquoson Watkins family; and, (4) Thomas

Watkins, Jr., b. ca. 1645, d. 1717, from whom it seems probable the Watkins family of Alabama are descended.

William Watkins was a planter of Poquoson, York Co., Va. His Will, a very interesting document was probated October 25, 1703. His son, William Watkins, Jr. married Sarah —. His Will, probated 1740, is listed in York W. B. 18, p. 639. An inventory of his estate appears *ibid.*, p. 657.

William Watkins, Jr. had a son Thomas, who, though not mentioned in Parish records, is named first in his Will. The eldest son of Thomas Watkins was Henry, b. ca. 1750. It was Henry who married Sarah Freeman.

V. (9)—see page 23.

Sarah Freeman, daughter of Henry Freeman and Elizabeth (Holloway?), married Henry Watkins, son of Thomas Watkins. The marriage bond uniting this old maid and old bachelor, for both were well up in years at the time, read as follows:

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that we Henry Watkins and Thomas Hunt are held and firmly bound unto Patrick Henry, esq., Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth of Virginia in the just and full sum of Fifty Pounds, current money, to be paid to the said Patrick Henry, esq., or his successors to which payment well and truly to be made. We bind ourselves jointly and severally our joint and several heirs, executors and administrators firmly by these presents. Sealed with our Seals and dated this 22nd day of February, 1785 and in the ninth year of the Commonwealth.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas there is a marriage intended shortly to be had and solemnized between Henry Watkins and Sarah Freeman, Spinster of this County. Now if there be no lawful cause to obstruct the said marriage then the above obligation to be void otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Sealed and Delivered
in presence of—

HENRY WATKINS (SEAL)
THOMAS HUNT (SEAL)

A Copy Teste: Floyd Holloway, Clerk.

Marriage Bonds and Consents

1772-1849, Part II, Page 361."

Issue:

- VI. (1) Thomas Aduston Watkins, b. Oct. 18, 1786; m. Polly —.
He was a cabinet maker of great skill. Many old and valu-

able pieces of furniture found in York County are his handiwork. He fought in the War of 1812 as a member of Capt. Shield's Company, 2nd Battalion, 115th Virginia Regiment, Militia. He was wounded in the attack upon Hampton, July 12, 1813 (see *Magazine of Virginia History and Biography*, Vol. 37, p. 4 ff). He was also listed as wounded on June 25, 1813. His enlistment states that he was six feet tall. A large part of his life was spent in Warwick Co. Issue:

VII. (1) Henry Watkins, b. 1818, d. Mar. 5, 1894. (q. v.)

(2) Eliza Watkins (q.v.)

(3) ——— Watkins m. ——— Winder, reportedly of Portsmouth, Virginia.

VII. (1)—above.

Henry Watkins, son of Thomas A, and Polly Watkins, married, first, Sarah Anne Linton, youngest daughter of Elijah Linton; secondly Emma Amory, daughter of Thomas C. and Jane Amory. He was one of York County's beloved characters. He operated a small farm. A forerunner of the modern dentist, he extracted teeth and prescribed for toothaches. He was a devout churchman. He served as a Private in Capt. James T. Watkins Co., 115th Virginia Militia, C. S. A. Issue by first marriage:

VIII. (1) Arinthia Susan Watkins, b. July 19, 1842, m. Wirt Holloway, b. Apr. 5, 1840, d. Mar. 17, 1894. He was a merchant of Jeffs, Va. Meth., Dem., Issue:

IX. (1) Alvina Frances Holloway m. Thomas M. Wood, dcd. He was a successful merchant of Hampton, Va. Issue:

X. (1) Hazel Wood.

(2) Nellie Wood, unm.

(3) Dr. Thomas Wood, m. ———. Dr. Wood was educated at William and Mary College and the Medical College of Virginia. He practiced for a number of years in Newport News. Issue:

XI (1) Thomas Wood, Jr.

(2) Sarah Elizabeth Holloway, b. Feb. 10, 1868; m.

YOUR FAMILY TREE

Rev. John D. Hosier, b. June 24, 1863, son of Joshua R. and Mary Ann Hosier of Hampton, Va. Mr. Hosier was educated for the ministry at Hampton Academy, Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, Va., and Randolph-Macon College. He served very effectively as a Methodist Pastor throughout Virginia. He is now retired and is living in the old Hosier homestead in Hampton, Virginia. He is Mason, Red Man, Odd Fellow, Moose: Issue:

- X. (1) J. Russell Hosier, b. Sept. 26, 1900. He was educated at Randolph-Macon Academy and at Randolph-Macon College. He is an attorney and Counsellor-at-law in Hampton, Va. Mr. Hosier is a Mason and an Eagle; Meth. and Dem.
- (3) Elijah Holloway, b. Apr. 30, 1881, d. Oct. 2, 1891.
- (4) Henry Wirt Holloway, b. Nov. 9, 1873; m. Margaret Sedgwick of Richmond, Va. d.s.p. Educated at Randolph-Macon Academy, Bedford, and Randolph-Macon College, he became a newspaperman of Richmond, Va.
- (5) Willard Holloway, b. July 18, 1877, d. July 31, 1879.
- (6) Florence Holloway, b. 1880; m. Albert Sydney White, son of Wise and Elizabeth White. Mr. White is in his second term as Sheriff of York County. He is prominent in the civic and religious life of the community. Res: Odd, Va. Issue:
- X. (1) Jack White, b. 1910, d. 1925.
- (2) Albert Sydney White, Jr., b. 1922.
- (7) Grace Holloway, b. Apr. 7, 1885; m. Bernard Phillips, b. Oct. 25, 1884, son of John Wesley and Evelyn Bailey Phillips. Mrs. Phillips was educated at Blackstone College, is a Pocahontas, Meth. Dem. Mr. Phillips is a member of Red Men, Jr. OUAM, Meth., Dem.

IX

The Value of a Tradition

I think the founding fathers entirely correct in building a society that would be free of titles and an hereditary aristocracy. They, of course, did not and could not abolish aristocracy nor an aristocratic tradition. They were but righting an ancient wrong for, in a real sense, aristocracy could never be hereditary. True aristocrats are bred, not born so, and the aristocratic tradition is his who maintains it. In past times we have put too much stress on who a man's ancestors were and too little stress on what he is himself. I conceive of the aristocratic tradition as having three essential components: a worthy past, a meaningful present, and a promising future. It is only necessary to have the last two of these to be an aristocrat in the truest sense, but it is more satisfying if all three components are possessed. It is not enough to have come from a line of worthy forebears; the true aristocrat is one who is in process of becoming a worthy ancestor for future generations. He has not necessarily come from anywhere, but he is definitely headed somewhere.

What I have just said is still in the process of be-

coming accepted. Today we live in a world that places greater emphasis on two other criteria: How much money has he? And, who were his family? The precedence of these questions one over the other depends largely upon the section of the country in which you happen to live. In the South and New England, it is still the latter. In the North and West it more often is the former; and in all sections, more slowly in some than in others, it is moving toward the one question: What kind of a man is he? And that is as it should be. But, mark you, the kind of man *he* is will depend in large measure upon the kind of people his parents were, the kind of home he had, what he has learned to value in life.

We have broken away from titled nobles; we are breaking down the last vestiges of an aristocracy open only to those born therein; but we can never break down the aristocratic tradition. Nor should we wish to do so. We can never abolish aristocrats; they will be as long as men exist for there will always be those who hold to the aristocratic tradition, and there will always be those who refuse its stringent demands. It is enough that no man is ineligible.

By all of this I do not mean to decry family traditions. They are part and parcel of what I am terming the aristocratic tradition. Every family should have its traditions of gentility and fairplay, of manners and customs, of civic responsibility and religious devotion. Above this there should be a tradition of achievement, even at great sacrifice—a sense of *noblesse oblige*. But all of these are rather intangible things, particularly intangible to the developing mind of the adolescent for whom such things matter most. That is where the value of knowing who your forbears were and what

they believed will stand you in good stead. It is all well and good to point out the virtues of Washington and Lincoln; but it is ever so much more meaningful to tell your twelve-year-old that it is his own particular heritage to be honest because his grandfather stayed a poor man all of his life to pay off debts against his name. It is worth something to say to that son that it would be letting his family down to be dishonest; that it would be failing to carry on a tradition his father and grandfather, and their fathers before them, had purchased at great cost.

A good friend and his wife, neither of whom belonged to families of very great distinction, and about whose backgrounds neither knew very much, decided that they would trace their family histories and out of their findings create a family tradition. They told me that they did this in order that their children might never know a sense of inferiority and because observation had taught them that it was the exception, rather than the rule, for a child to break away from the atmosphere in which he grew up. I think they were very wise people.

I should like to distinguish clearly between pride in family tradition and bragging about one's family. You can usually bank on it that the man who brags about his family is suffering from one of several conditions: he is trying to cover up a sense of shame concerning his family; he is attempting to cover up his own sense of failure by relying on the reputation of his family; or he is attempting to escape reality by living in the past. Family and traditions are personal affairs. I should be as embarrassed to hear a child of mine brag about his family as to hear him describe some intimate family problems.

To families who adhere to the aristocratic tradition, there is *noblesse oblige*. Indeed, an acceptance of responsibility in both personal and civic affairs should be the foundation of any worthwhile tradition. To whom much has been given, of him shall much be required. A man can not live unto himself.

Lord Francis Bacon expressed what I am trying to say in these words: "It is a reverend thing to see an ancient castle not in decay; how much more to behold ancient families which have stood against the waves and weathers of time."

